transporter

Vol. 21, No. 10
December 1987

For employees and retirees of the
New Jersey Department of Transportation

Thomas H. Kean, Governor
Hazel Frank Gluck, Commissioner

Dear Fellow Employees:

As we approach the end of another year, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank all 5,600 of you for your cooperation and hard work during the past 12 months.

It's been a busy year – and a successful one in many ways: the Trust Fund was extended for one more year; we opened the first Department-wide child care center; we dedicated a beautiful new headquarters facility for Region III employees; and the Department was rated Number 1 by more legislators than any other.

None of these things could have been accomplished without your dedication and professionalism. I thank you for making the Department and its Commissioner look good.

There remains much to do in the new year, but I'm confident that working together we will accomplish our goals – both for the Department and for the citizens of this state.

Wishing each of you joyous holidays and a prosperous, healthy and happy New Year.

Sincerely,

Hazel Frank Gluck

*The NJDOT chorus in rehearsal for the open house included (**front row**) Helen Shopp, Principal Engineering Aide, Bridges; Denise Farina, Student Co-op, Permits; Cathy Zelli, Secretarial Assistant II, Financial Planning; Sandra Goslin, Principal Drafting Technician, Design; Kimberly Moiring, Senior Drafting Technician, Design; MaryAnne Esposito, Principal Drafting Technician, Design; Judith S. Parrish, Principal Ridesharing Coordinator, Public Transportation Services. **(Standing)** Robbie McIntyre, Research Assistant, Planning; John McCarthy, Environmental Specialist, Materials; Mark McHenry, Assistant Engineer, Materials; Jack Buie and Keith Swango, Principal Drafting Technicians, Design; MaryAnn Pucilowski, Head DraftingTechnician, Design; Jimmy Maul, Supervising Management and Operations Analyst, Administrative Systems; Lynne Armstrong, Principal Engineering Aide, Design; Ulysses Wallace, Principal Draftsman, Bridge; Jacque Campitelli, Principal Clerk Steno, Civil Rights; Peter J. Kenny and Bill Beans, Principal Engineers, Transportation, Design Region II; Charles Brodowicz, Senior Engineer, Construction; Steve Ciapanna, Principal Engineer, Bridges. Missing from the photo were, Renee Coult, Accident Record Reviewer; Carlone Hunt, Principal Clerk Typist, Nancy Allen, Senior Drafting Technician, Bernard Owens, Drafting Technician; Robert Schelink, Assistant Engineer and Nick Spair, Principal Engineer, Planning.*

NJDOTers raise their voices in song

The holiday season was celebrated in song as 26 singers and musicians from the NJDOT Ewing offices entertained fellow employees at the Commissioner's annual Holiday Open House in the Cafeteria. The group was conducted by Judith Parrish of Transportation Services.

The chorus was part of a two hour entertainment program coordinated by Gerald E. Guarnieri, Supervisor, Communications, it included a return engagement by the Ewing High School Gospel Choir which pleased last year's party goers with their spitrited singing; children from the DOT TOT Day Care Center who charmed their audience with a brief presentation. The festivities were rounded out by the music of John McCarthy on Guitar, Mark McHenry playing Trumpet, Rob Scholnick, Violin, Renee Coult, Drums, Charles Brodowicz, keyboards and Robbie McIntyre, bass.

The staff who developed the access permit guidelines are (seated) Bill Mangan, Project Engineer; Charles Guenzel, Acting Project Engineer; (standing) Glenn Lawrence, Principal Engineer; John Potapa, Project Engineer, Mearl Challender, Project Engineer; Charles Laurita, Principal Engineer, all from Design and Art English of Construction and Maintenance.

New highway access permit guide to reduce delays

A guideline for issuing highway access permits went into effect on October 1. It was developed by the Construction and Maintenance and Design staffs who work with the permit process and published in booklet form for the public.

According to Commissioner Hazel Frank Gluck, the lack of an updated highway access policy has caused unreasonable delays in issuing permits. With the guidelines in place, the Department can now trim the amount of time it takes to issue most permits to no more than 185 days.

Prior to this, most highway access permit applications came directly to Trenton. Now a substantial number will be processed in the four regional Construction and Maintenance offices. If the request is considered minor by guideline standards, the approval will be granted immediately by the regional office by a project engineer. If an application is considered major, it will be sent to Trenton Headquarters for review by the appropriate Regional Design office.

This cooperation between the Construction and Maintenance and Design staffs has enabled the NJDOT to cut the processing time for the permits, yet leave the Department with enough flexibility to work with the developers.

One of the problems found with the former system was that there was no accurate way of tracking applications through the Department. Bill DiPoalo of Deputy Commissioner Michael F. Barrett's office wrote a new computer program which will do this.

The regional Construction and Maintenance employees who deal with highway access permits in most cases are Allen Nass, Region I, Netcong; Phil Whitting, Region II, Newark; Eugene Shoup, Region III, Freehold; and George Poole, Region IV, Cherry Hill.

Trenton Headquarters Design people involved with highway access permits are Charles Guenzel, Region I; Bill Mangan, Region II; Mearl Challender, Region III; and John Potapa, Region IV.

Briefs

Trust Fund bill passes

The New Jersey General Assembly has passed a bill that would renew the Transportation Trust Fund by increasing the state's motor fuels tax by two and one-half cents to a total of ten and one-half cents. Currently, New Jersey's motor fuels tax at eight cents a gallon is the lowest in the nation.

A companion bill, which also passed the Assembly, would dedicate the new tax and another two and one-half cents from the existing tax solely to transportation purposes, bringing the total dedicated to transportation to seven and one-half cents

The bill (A-4649) would provide $4.4 billion over the next five years to the Trust Fund in a combination of state money, federal funds and other fees. Senate hearings on the two bills are scheduled for Dec. 16 and 17.

NJDOT to issue ethics booklet

Sometime soon, each employee will receive a copy of the Department's Code of Ethics, printed in a booklet, and will be required to sign for his or her copy.

In addition to signing a receipt for the booklet, each employee will be required to abide by the ethical standards described in the text.

The DOT Code of Ethics is contained in full in this booklet. It is explicit in its definition of activities that may not be undertaken by any DOT employee at any time. It also spells out the procedures that must be followed if such unethical activities are suggested to an employee by someone else. Guidelines are also included that specify what activities are permissible.

Commissioner Gluck advises all employees to take the time to read and understand the Code. "I suggest you take the time to read and understand the revised Code because you will be held accountable for your own actions," she said.

Awards Committee appointed

Commissioner Hazel Frank Gluck has appointed six NJDOT employees to serve on the Department of Transportation Awards Committee. They are Al Ari, Supervising Engineer, C&M; Richard Bush, Project Engineer, Landscape; Barbara Dyett, Assistant to Assistant Commissioner James A. Crawford; Louis P. Reichel, Budget Analysis; Patricia Soeteber, Supervising Transportation Analyst, Transportation Services; and Peter Yull, Records and Services.

Straight lines point the way

On a dark and windy winter night, a car speeds along a lonely stretch of highway. Suddenly the lights of an oncoming vehicle surprise the driver who brakes, a bit too rapidly, sending the car careening out of control, sliding on an unseen patch of ice. The car smashes into the oncoming truck which rips into the guide rail, spilling its cargo over the highway in the process.

A state trooper, first on the scene radios for assistance. Soon ambulances, tow trucks and an NJDOT Maintenance crew race to assist. They all arrive, finding the remote location with little difficulty.

Fiction you say? Not according to Buddy (H.G.) Dusch, Principal Engineer, Planning, whose section is responsible for preparing the NJDOT's *Straight Line Diagram* book.

"The book has been called 'The Bible' by the NJ State Police," Dusch said. "With it any policeman can quickly locate the precise position of an accident and guide emergency vehicles directly to the spot."

No magic is involved. State highways are marked with mileposts and knowing the milepost can quickly orient the driver, guiding them to any location.

New Jersey began marking its highways with mileposts in 1967. The *Straight Line Diagram* book shows each road on the state highway system, representing the roadway as a straight line rather than showing its twists and turns as on a map. The mileposts, crossroads and streets, bridges, railroads and other major features along the highway are also shown. In addition, control section numbers, width of lanes and shoulders, speed limits and traffic volumes are displayed.

"We are about to publish our twentieth diagram book," said Anthony J. DeLucia, Chief of Data Resources, whose office publishes and distributes the book each year. Some 1,300 copies are used throughout the NJDOT, principally in Traffic Engineering, Design and also in Construction and Maintenance. Another 300 are purchased by people outside the Department.

Users of the book frequently contact Dusch with suggestions or alert him to needed changes. "The users have an investment in the book," he said. "Their feedback is important to the continued accuracy of the data."

Dusch, a graduate of Villanova University, is a professional engineer and amateur historian who takes pride in his work. The records he maintains cover highway construction since 1920 and are invaluable to staff members charged with planning improvements.

Records such as the *Road Life Survey* books, which cover the years 1939 through 1963, show exactly what was constructed.

The Data Resources staff at work on the next edition of the Sraight Line Diagram book are William C. Laster, Jules Untener, Karen J. Kopp and Buddy Dusch

From them a researcher can find features which may now have been covered over by resurfacing or new construction. Engineers agree that it is vital to know what is under the present road surface and frequently use the straight line book and other records in Data Resources in their research.

DeLucia is looking forward to a day in the near future when all of the data in his office has been loaded into an integrated computer system, giving staffers throughout the Department direct access to much needed data.

Dusch is assisted by thre people. William C. Laster, Supervising Engineering Aide, joined the Department in 1969 as an Engineering Aide in Commuter Services. Jules Untener, Principal Engineering Aide, came to NJDOT in 1962 as a draftsman. Co-op student Karen J. Kopp will graduate from Trenton State College this spring with a degree in Advertising Design. She designed the cover of the current book.

Ceremony marks removal of Laurelton Circle

Federal, state and local officials expressed their pleasure at the completion of the long-awaited improvements to Routes 70 and 88 at the December 9 ribbon cutting ceremony at the site of the former Laurelton Circle. The NJDOT Region IV Design and Region III Construction staffs supervised this $12-million project. Commissioner Hazel Frank Gluck cut the ribbon along with George Buckwald, Freeholder Director, Monmouth; John Paul Doyle, Assemblyperson; John F. Russo, President of the NJ Senate, Commissioner Gluck; former Governor Brendan Byrne; Governor Thomas H. Kean and Assemblyperson Robert Singer.

Nominations are being taken for 1987 Employees of the Year

January is the month when NJDOT supervisors will nominate the 1987 Employees of the Year. However, in response to a survey conducted earlier this year in which employees stated a desire to participate in the selection of award recipients, any employee may recommend to their supervisor a fellow employee whom they think is deserving of this special recognition.

The Employee of the Year Award is given for work performance which has far exceeded performance standards during the past year. The nominee must satisfy one of the following criteria:

- exceptional creativity
- exceptional concern for safety
- exceptional leadership skills
- enhancement of the public image of the Department
- exceptional responsibility
- extreme devotion to duty

In addition, to be eligible for consideration, an employee must not have received a citation for a safety violation for the past year, must meet the Commissioner's goal for sick leave reduction, must not have been disciplined during the past year and be in a non-managerial title at the Project Engineer level or below.

To place a nomination, an employee must complete Special Awards Nomination Form PR-140 and submit it to his/her supervisor. If the nominee is not in the same work unit, submit the PR-140 to the nominee's immediate supervisor. Nominations must be submitted no later than January 15, 1988. PR-140 forms are avilalble from Central Supply, the Bureau of Employee Services, or from Division Personnel Coordinators.

The purpose of the special Awards Program is to recognize employees who have performed above and beyond normal expectations. If you know a co-worker who exemplifies the "outstanding" state employee, please submit his/her name.

For further information, contact Maggie Hoffman, Chief, Bureau of Employee Services.

Governor requests Parkway plan review

Governor Thomas H. Kean earlier this month asked Commissioner Gluck to undertake a review of the New Jersey Highway Authority's capital construction program from an overall transportation standpoint.

The Commissioner (Gluck) agreed to the review and named Deputy Assistant Commissioner for Modal Transportation Services Dennis Keck as head of the investigating team

Keck said his staff will review the capacity needs of the Authority; how those plans impact the state, county and municipal systems; and if the Authority's plans fit into the overall state transportation plan. Joining Keck in the investigation are John Obermeier, Director of the Division of Comprehensive Transportation Planning and Ken Kyte, Director of the Office of Highway Services.

The Department was similarly asked by the Governor to take a look at a transportation authority's plans last year when the New Jersey Turnpike's expansion plans were announced.

Snow Reps and Truck Drivers Wanted

Construction and Maintenance needs responsible people to work as Truck Drivers or "Snow Representatives." Truck drivers would drive DOT snowplows on a scheduled 24-hour call basis. Snow Representatives are needed to observe snowplow contractors on a 24-hour call basis.

If you want to earn extra money this winter, call your Regional Maintenance Engineer: Region I (Netcong), Worth Cunningham, Scan 8-256-2223 or (201) 347-4415; Region II (Newark), Robert Micai, Scan 8-221-2278 or (201) 648-2278; Region III (Freehold), Robert Leahy, (201) 308-4100; Region IV (Cherry Hill), Oliver Kee, (609) 795-4726.

Ten receive service awards

Deputy Commissioner Michael F. Barrett presented service awards to ten employees, (seated) Raymond Keeley and George Pool both with 40 years of service in Construction and Maintenance, (standing) 35 year service employees, Leonard Calabrese, Design; Louis Conover, Joseph DiMemmo, William Kilmurray, Charles Fischer and Charles Zweigle from Construction and Maintenance and Eugene Hoff, Design and Albert Mackenzie, Investigative Services.

PEOPLE

Briefs

A testimonial dinner honoring **Jack Freidenrich**, who is retiring as Assistant Commissioner, Engineering and Operations (State Highway Engineer), is being planned for Sunday, January 17, at the Hyatt Regency in Princeton.

For information and reservations, contact Rosemary Aversano at (609)530-2529 or Jeanne Smith at (609) 530-2539.

(The *Transporter* will feature Freidenrich in the February issue.)

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Connie Myers has been appointed to the position of Assistant Director, Office of Governmental and Legislative Affairs, assisting Carolyn McCallum in working with state legislators and other elected officials.

Myers has served as assistant to former Assemblyman Karl Weidel and until recently was in charge of external affairs for the Division of Women in the Department of Community Affairs.

* * * *

Cathy Nickolaisen, Director of Aeronautics, has been appointed Regional Vice President for the National Association of State Aviation Officials.

* * * *

John Miller, Principal Engineer, Bridge Design, was married on October 3 to Karen Turner. The couple resides in Hamilton.

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Alexander Brown, Area Coordinator, Office of Community Involvement, won a commendation award from the Mercer County Board of Freeholders for his work as president of the Greater Trenton Community Health Center.

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Larry Chestnut, Graphics and Cartography, is exhibiting his art during December at the Artful Deposit in Allentown.

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Dennis Carlson, Project Engineer, Region II and his wife Donna are the proud parents of an 8 lb. 1 oz. baby boy, Michael James, who arrived on September 26.

Dolores Murphy works at her desk in building 8 in the Fernwood Complex, Ewing Township.

Dolores Murphy retires

Dolores Murphy, Supervisor of Records, Transportation, retired December 4 after more than 18 years with the Department. She was responsible for the Department's records and retention schedules.

In 1986, Murphy was named Employee of the Year. She said she considers that award a special highlight of her career, particularly because it came during an important time for the Department. She and her staff reviewed the records for employees moving into the new E&O Building which involved revising retention schedules, analyzing the file system, and estimating the storage area.

Dolores said she will now focus on more personal pursuits. She plans to do some traveling with her husband, Joseph, also retired. They own a trailer that they hitch to the back of their pick-up truck, and plan to do some sightseeing out west. They'd like to visit Glacier National Park in Montana, the Grand Canyon, Bryce Canyon, Monument Valley and other sights.

"We'd like to go back again — to see the places we've seen and the ones we missed," Dolores said. But home will always be in Ringoes, New Jersey, "a beautiful place" in its own right, according to the new retiree.

Six receive retirement awards

Deputy Commissioner Michael F. Barrett recently presented retirement awards for six Department employees with a combined total of 145 years. They are James L. Morrison, former Regional Design Engineer, Region IV, 25 years of service; Edward Milacki, Central Services, 28 years; Laura E. Hill, Central Services, 21 years; Barrett; Lawrence Hayes, Construction and Maintenance, 33 years and Thomas A. Ayres, Design, 38 years.

RECENT RETIREES

Martin T. Short, Area Supervisor, C&M, 34 years; **George E. Thomas**, Chief, Travel Projects, Planning, 34 years; **Harold E. Baker**, Crew Supervisor, Central Services, 30 years; **Phillip J. Brangan**, Bridge Operator, Design, 17 years.

Obituaries

Charles C. Voorhees Jr., 54, Supervising Engineer, Region IV, died November 18 after 36 years with the Department.

He spent 16 years in Field Survey, the final eight as crew chief. After his career was interrupted by service in the Air Force during the Korean War, he returned to become Jurisdictional Control Engineer, with responsibility for establishing the limits of state-owned highways.

Voorhees

Voorhees was a member of St. James Episcopal Church in Trenton and active in church and diocesan affairs.

He is survived by his wife, Ellen, a former NJDOTer; a daughter, Lynne; a son, Richard; and three grandchildren.

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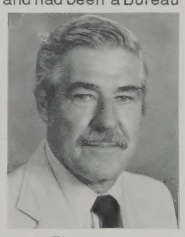
Antonio Flammia, 53, Senior Engineer, Region II, Materials, Fairfield, died recently after a long illness. He joined the NJDOT in 1968. He is survived by his wife, Immaculata, and three sons.

* * * *

Warren Sandler, 25, Data Processing Programmer with OTIS for the past three years died recently. He is survived by his mother and two brothers. Sandler worked closely with NJDOT employees on many projects.

Richard H. Fierabend, 58, Chief, Bureau of Administrative Systems, died November 31 at St. Francis Medical Center, Trenton. Fierabend joined the Department in 1964 as a Principal Engineer and had been a Bureau Chief since 1971.

A graduate of Rutgers University and a US Army veteran, he is survived by his wife, Alice, three sons and his mother. Fierabend was an ardent tennis player and was founder of the annual NJDOT tennis tournament.



Fierabend

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Orrin 'Andy' Anderson, 65, of Hamilton Square, died December 4. He retired in 1984 as a truck driver after 33 years of service. He served in the Army during WW II and was active with several veteran's organizations. He is survived by three brothers, a niece and several nephews.

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Charles "Buckey" Bensley, 65, died on December 3. He retired last year as Foreman of Crew 110 in the Branchville Yard after 32 years of service. He is survived by his wife, Julia, one daughter and two grandchildren.

Transporter
NJ Department of Transportation

Thomas H. Kean, Governor
Hazel Frank Gluck, Commissioner

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Ewing Township

With the snow season upon us, this pleasant country scene is our holiday greeting to you. if you can identify this photograph, send your answer in writing along with your name, title and unit to Transporter, *Room 1500, Headquarters, Trenton.* ***It is not necessary to send the*** **Transporter** ***photograph with your answer.*** *Please submit your answers by January 15.*

Can you identify this 'Moment in History'?

Last month's "Moment in History" stumped most of our entrants. John P. Hoschek, Director, Division of Transportation Services came the closest in identifying the Public Service line that once linked Newark and Trenton. The actual location indicated on our print is Wilson Avenue in Newark; the year is 1918.

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Happy Holidays